

UTILITIES COMMISSION

December 11, 2007

7:30 p.m.

The Stafford County Utilities Commission met for its regular meeting on December 11, 2007, in the Utilities Administration office building. Commission members present were Joyce Arndt, Rick Carroll, Juan Chaves, Bob Hunt, Patricia Kurpiel. Dale Allen and Cheryl Giles were present for the Utilities Department.

1. **Public Presentations** – There were no public presentations.
2. **Approval of Minutes** - Minutes for the October 9, 2007 meeting were approved as written.
3. **Golden Tap Award** – Patricia Kurpiel inquired about an alternative way of recognizing the Golden Tap Award recipient other than at the banquet dinner. Patricia expressed concern about a more cost efficient way of recognizing the recipient. After some discussion, the commission suggested that a survey of what passed recipients thought would be beneficial to determine if the banquet dinner was a preferred way to be recognized. Dale Allen responded he would speak with pass recipients to get their thoughts about their preferences of alternative ways to be recognized for the Golden Tap Award. Bob Hunt volunteered to serve on the Golden Tap Award Selection committee.
4. **Briefing on Water Restrictions** – Dale Allen distributed copies of a packet that contained a graph displaying current information regarding the current reservoir levels, news releases regarding the water restrictions, and reservoir level tables dating back to May, 2007. Dale explained the information on the graph consists of the daily records table that plant managers maintain. Dale reported that the graph shows the depth of water levels in the reservoirs.

Rick Carroll expressed concern that outside watering has decreased but inside watering remains as though water restrictions are no longer in effect. The commission discussed ideas on ways to inform customers about the importance of continuing to conserve water. Bob Hunt suggested publishing information that shows how gallons saved daily or weekly could have an impact on the reservoir levels. Patricia Kurpiel suggested that a graph be placed on the website and/or in the newspaper weekly showing the water levels for the reservoirs. Rick Carroll suggested asking the Board of Supervisors to announce at the beginning of each board meeting that water restrictions are still in effect. Joyce Arndt suggested that alerting citizens that rates could increase could also influence citizens to conserve water.

Chairman, Juan Chaves requested that Dale present the Commission's recommendations to County Administration to get more information and publicity to the public.
5. **Director of Utilities Report** – Dale Allen reported that members with an upcoming expiration of term should contact their supervisor and let him know if they are interested in continuing to serve as a commission member.

Dale also reported the Board passed the ordinance changing the mandatory water and sewer requirements and creating a waiver process. The adopted ordinance closely followed changes recommended by the Commission. The Department has received six requests for waivers to date. These will be on the December 18th Board agenda. More are expected in the future.

6. Commission Members Comments – Rick Carroll inquired if the rental houses involved in the Rocky Pen Run project would hinder the construction process. Dale responded the houses are currently vacant, but would be rented and should not hinder the construction process.

Patricia Kurpiel wanted to know if when DEQ imposes the nitrogen and phosphorus limits for the state; would that limit still allow Utilities to expand the comp plan. Dale responded that yes it would still allow Utilities to expand the plants, but not to capacities required by the comp plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Kurpiel
Recording Secretary